[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

**Re: Collection of [child’s name] during [religious instruction event type]**

[DATE]

Dear [Principal],

I refer to your [communication type] regarding the [x class] [religious instruction event type] on [x date].

As you are aware, I have invoked [child's name]’s right to attend your school without attending religious instruction, as is our constitutionally protected right under Articles 42 and 44. Here is the wording of those articles for your reference:

###### 42.1: The State acknowledges that the primary and natural educator of the child is the Family and guarantees to respect the inalienable right and duty of parents to provide, according to their means, for the religious and moral, intellectual, physical and social education of their children.

###### 42.4 The State shall provide for free primary education and shall endeavour to supplement and give reasonable aid to private and corporate educational initiative, and, when the public good requires it, provide other educational facilities or institutions with due regard, however, for the rights of parents, especially in the matter of religious and moral formation.

###### 44.2.4: Legislation providing State aid for schools shall not discriminate between schools under the management of different religious denominations, nor be such as to affect prejudicially the right of any child to attend a school receiving public money without attending religious instruction at that school.

Section 62(7)(n) of the Education (Admissions) to Schools Act 2018 supports these rights by stating that, not only are schools that provide religious instruction required to put the arrangements for students who do not wish to attend religious instruction in their Admissions Policies, but that the policy must not require a reduction in the school day.

###### (n) provide details of the school’s arrangements in respect of any student, where the parent of that student, or in the case of a student who has reached the age of 18 years, the student, has requested that the student attend the school without attending religious instruction at the school (which arrangements shall not result in a reduction in the school day in respect of the student concerned)

For this reason, I cannot accept your request to collect my child from school on [x date] and must request that the school instead makes the arrangements required to meet your legal obligations to facilitate my child's constitutional and legal rights. [optional: personal impact of requirement to collect child during school day].

Yours faithfully,

[Your name]